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AN
ESSAY

For Increasing the

INHABITANTS and RICHES

OF

IRELAND.

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THE HISTORY OF THE

IN

ESSAYS

FOR THE



INHABITANTS

OF

IRELAND.

BY

AN
ESSAY
On Increasing the
INHABITANTS and RICHES
OF
IRELAND,
AND
Propogating Mankind
BY
INCUBATION.

Humbly offered to the Consideration of P———

By MARTINUS SCRIBLERUS, *the Younger.*

LONDON:

Printed in the YEAR, 1747.

ESTAY

IN A SET OF

OF

REELAND

AND

Propagating Mankind



INCUBATION

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LONDON:

Printed in the Year 1795.

A N
E S S A Y
On Increasing the
INHABITANTS and RICHES
O F
I R E L A N D, &c.

IF the common Maxim, *That the Riches of a Nation depend upon, the Number of its Inhabitants*, be just, I flatter myself, I bid as fair, in this Essay, for the enriching, by the populating my Country, as any Patriot it ever did, or perhaps ever will produce. And if, by the Wisdom and Justice of our most Noble and most Excellent L———, this my Project be carried into Execution, by the force of an all-powerful Act of P———t, or which is the same thing, a V——te of the C———s, I may, without Vanity, say, I have, by this Essay, raised to myself a Monument more durable than Brass; and no Man can be better intitled to the Appellation of the Father of his Country, than he, who, in the easiest and most effectual Manner, at once, promotes the Propagation, and the Preservation of the Human Species.

There is nothing appears to a truly benevolent Mind, more lamentable, than the general Depravity and Degeneracy of Human Nature. Where this respects Life, or Morals, or Religion, I shall leave it entirely, to the Care of the numerous swarms of indefatigable Clergy that cover the Face of this Happy Island. Far be it from me, to incroach upon
on

on their Divine Function, who am my self, but one of the *Beasts of the People*: But if I humbly minister to these Sacred Shepherds, by multiplying their Flocks, and consequently increasing their Gain, by a large additional Number of Fleeces, I may hope for the Blessing of the next C——n, as well as, the Thanks of the present P——t of long and happy duration.

I shall, at present, only touch upon such Immoralities, in other Words *Fashions*, as have, almost, reversed, and threaten the speedy Dissolution, or Extinction of, the human Race, if not quickly prevented; and then offer the best Expedients, that occur to me, to avert this impending Evil, and then endeavour, in a few short Remarks, to illustrate the usefulness of this Potently Prolific Scheme.

It is evident to all that are conversant with the History of Human Nature, that no Animal is now brought into the World, with greater Pain and Danger, or nursed, with greater Hazard and Difficulty, than Man, that proud Lord of the terrestrial Creation. This is said to have been the Case, in all Ages; but all Dangers and Difficulties are allowed to have increased visibly, from the Beginning, and to have arose to such a Pitch, in these our Days, of extreme Luxury, that no fine Lady, who condescends to breed, can do it, without the most hateful, shocking, unfashionable Disfiguration of her fair Body, for some Months, and then being exposed to the Pains and Horror of undergoing the harsh, sometimes severe, manual Labours of one, two or more, lusty, robust Fellows, to the great risque of her precious Life, and the unspeakable Detriment of her Puny Person.

What a Progress this depopulating Evil has made, most can, by Comparison, even within their own Memory, and Knowledge, recount. While Women were content to wear the beausious Shape that Provident Nature, formerly deemed unerring in her Works,

Works; gave them: Pregnancy was reckoned, not only a Blessing, but a Beauty. Every Woman, as well as her Husband, was proud of the Form; none was afraid to disfigure her Body by Gestation or Bearing, nor her Pap, by giving the Infant its destined Nourishment; each artless, unfashionable Female, was to her Neighbour, and if Necessity required, to herself, a Mid-wif; and what will, now at Days, hardly gain Credit, few or no Mothers were in those Days known, whose Suck proved poisonous to their Offspring. Such was then the Fashion or the Law.

Women of Quality and Distinction might, in these good Times, without Disparagement, submit to the ordinary methods of Generation and Nursing. But since such remarkable changes are wrought in the Animal Oeconomy, that no well bred Woman can compliment her Sovereign Lord and Husband, even with an Heir, without the Perils and Dangers before recited, and since the Milk of such Ladies generally proves as poisonous a Juice to a Human Infant, as that of Hemlock or Hebenon; Conception becomes a Crime, bordering upon, nay, almost equal to Suicide, and nursing is little better than Man-slaughter; if the little anomolous Offspring of such Parents, as I speak of, I mean what we call the better Sort, be properly called Men.

And here, my extreme tenderness for the fairest and best of God's Creation, prompts me to hint an Apology for the Ladies not complying with the repeated pressing Advice of a certain Reverend Divine, whose assiduous Labours for the Salvation of the Kingdom and People of those Realms, by shewing the one the Innocence of Adultery, and the other the heinous Sin of eating Blood; is never enough to be admired, or forgotten. But to return;

Many are the Vicissitudes in Time, and not less those, by Time, wrought in worldly Matters. Learned Anatomists inform us, that it is a doubt, whether

whether or no, the first created had a Navel. To these it is well known, that the Part that is now the Lower or inferior Part of the Brain, was formerly, the Upper or superior; that the Heart was, once, seated in the Right Side, and the Liver in the Left, till by Depravity and Perverseness, or by new Laws given them, they moved, and changed places, in time; the Heart first going towards the Center of the Microcosm, and after some short stay there, filing off, directly to the Extremity of the Left Side, where it is generally observed to be very busy, especially, with the Fair Sex, and found there, commonly upon Dissection: The Liver, to keep up the Ballance, steering to the Right, where it is mostly, now, found fixed, elaborating Choler; hence Gall is found so ready to the Right Hand. It is well known too, that the Blood lay as quiet as any Pond or stagnating Water, only where the Purple Pool was largest, it was set on Flame, much as Whiskey is by our Countrymen, to keep the rest of the Body warm; and thus it continued till an *Englishman* of a restless Spirit and great Power, in altering the Animal Oeconomy, found that inconvenience to his Countrymen, and so ordered it to run with great force and swiftness, in opposite Courses, thro' different Canals, allowing it nothing to keep up its necessary Heat, but what it acquired by its own Industry and Exercise. This became a Law, or the Fashionable Course of the Blood in Kings and Peasants, in those Nations, and has continued so ever since, and we are credibly informed, that this Fashion, or Law, now prevails in *France* and some other polite Countries. But there is a worse Appendage to the Human Body, of more modern, human Invention than all this; I mean the Nerves. Polite Nations contend for this fatal Discovery. The Controversy is perplexed and complicate. Who first brought Nerves to Light, is not clearly known, but this is evident, that no People under the Sun have

have more of them at this Day than we, if we except but our next Neighbours; and it must be confessed, that they were not known in *France*, so late as *Lewis* the XIVth's Time. For tho' that sacred Monarch felt most, nay, the foulest of Distempers, incident to a Monarch, or a Man, yet he never was known to have any nervous Complaint, nor indeed Pricking, which is said to arise from the Nerves; for he was remarked for being as thankful for getting a Beating as a Triumph.

But these are not the only Changes made by Man, in the System of mundane Beings. One and the same Drug has been, even by a *French* Parliament, at one time, pronounced poisonous and deadly, especially to Monks; at an other; that Law was repealed so effectually, that the same Drug is now known to be, not only, wholesome and medicinal, but the best Means of fattening Monks, — or Swine.

It is, however, no small Comfort to me, to find such just and useful Powers, vested in the Hands of such wise Men, as P——ts and Faculties of Physic, or Colleges of Physicians, must always consist of, as those of changing the Laws of Nature, for the good of the State, — or the Interest of the Faculty: To both which most noble and important Ends, my Scheme must certainly prove conducive; and therefore without Hopes of any temporary Reward, not so much as the Benefit of a R——t I P——t for the sole and singular Emoluments arising from this most beneficent Scheme, I humbly beg leave to offer my whole Secret to the most honourable, most wise, and truly learned, the P——t and P——t of this Kingdom.

It is an Axiom among Naturalists and Philosophers, that all Things are produced from Eggs. The Truth of which is proved by every Day's Experience. All Animals are unquestionably found to have Eggs, and to produce their young thence, and all by Hatching, but by various Means. Some by the
B Heat

Heat of the Sun alone, remote from the Body of the Mother; as Flies, Fishes, &c. others by the Heat of the Parents Body, and that either without the Body, as most Fowls, or within the Body, as in most Quadrupedes, Vipers, and Women. In the latter Way, is the noble Animal, called Man, in particular, engendered and hatched, but yet brought into the World, with such Toil and Peril, as before recited, especially to the better Sort, that Princes can scarcely by daily Creations of Nobility, keep up the Size or Number of their hereditary G—d C—l.

Let me now humbly apply to those most mighty Powers on Earth, who can, with the sovereign Breath of their sacred Mouths, reverse the whole Course and Order of Nature, or any Part thereof, whose *Fiat* can effectually make right, wrong, as wrong, right, who can save or damn themselves and Constituents, at Pleasure, who can naturalize Unnaturals, & é Contra, — who can make the Wise, Mad, or the Mad, wise, who can, at will, make any Part of the Creation baneful or medicinal: To you, I apply, in Behalf of myself and many others, of his Majesty's liegeSubjects, and for Remedy of the dreadful Evils before-mentioned, I pray that it may be, e—d, by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the 1st Day of *April*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord 1750, it shall not be lawful for any Female, whether Maid, Widow or Wife, to bring forth any Child, whether Male or Female, otherwise than as is hereafter directed.

I. Every Female who finds herself inclined to propagate her Species, shall, or may, within three Days after Impregnation, lay or bring forth one Egg, with the same Ease and Safety that any other Fowl lays its Egg.

II. That these human Eggs shall, or may, keep without Danger of Putrefaction, from the Time in which Females shall be qualified to lay, to the Time

in which they shall leave off laying, when they shall, or may shew Signs of Clocking, or inclining to Hatch.

III. That no Woman during her Time of laying, shall sit or hatch, any Egg or Eggs, but that all, and every Egg or Eggs, may and shall be hatched by barren, old, superannuated Men as well as Women, at the public Expence. By which a great Part of the Creation, now mostly in every Instance useless, in the Work of Propagation, entirely so, may be rendered of some Use to Society, such as all old Court Pensioners, whether L——ds S——l or T——l, or C——ns in P——t, such may have Hatching Seats made for them, in either H——se of P——t, where they may be of double Use to the Nation, as well in Talking, as in Hatching, especially as it may be presumed, we might, by this Means, be well supplied with Chickens of the Game, which must grow up under the Wings of their Parent, into true Patriot M——rs. Here also, they may at the same Time hatch various useful Plots, and Schemes of Ministers. By this Means also fit Employment will be found for non-resident Clergymen, at present a dead Weight upon the Nation, for the oldest Bawds, maimed, or superannuated Beaux, cast I——ges, or Apoplectic Aldermen, or Sheriffs Peers. These and all others that have not been found to do much in the Way of Generation, may be kept constantly, at the good Work of Hatching, and thus the Balance will be happily kept up in Families. For it cannot be just or reasonable, tho' immemorial Custom has given it the Sanction of Law, that many Husbands bear a small, or no Share at all, in the Propagation of their Species, but leave the whole Weight and Labour on their Wives.

IV. That in order to preserve the human Game, it shall be Felony, without Benefit of Clergy, for any Man, who is not a M——r of P——t, a

Lord of a Manor, a Dean, or an Arch-Deacon in the Church, or possessed of Ecclesiastical Benefices, or Pluralities to the Amount of 500 l. per Annum, to eat the Egg or Eggs of any Maid, Widow, or Wife, unless she or they be actually in a State of Servitude, immediately under him or them.

V. That the Eggs of Servant Maids, Cottager's Wives and Daughters, may be eaten by their Masters and Landlords at Discretion, saving the Tythe to the Minister or Curate of the Parish.

VI. That notwithstanding every Maid, Widow, or Wife, may be allowed to keep a reasonable Number of Eggs for Breed, marking upon the Shell, the Name or Quality, to the best of her or their Knowledge, of the Father or Impregiator of such Egg or Eggs, always reserving a reasonable Fine for the Master or Landlord, and a fit Compensation, by way of Agistment for the Parson.

Many useful Laws may in Process of Time, by Observation, and the Wisdom and Care of the Legislature, be contrived to make this wondrous Scheme more effectual and useful. The Advantages that must result from it to the Public, in general, to the better Sort, in particular, are many and obvious; before I conclude, I must glance at some, and leave the rest to the curious Reader.

How far the Propagation of Man may be promoted by this easy Method of only changing Child-bearing to Egg-bearing, will appear, by considering how many Eggs a well-fed human Buller may produce in her life.

Supposing a healthful young Female begins to lay Eggs at fifteen Years old, as she must have the Instinct and Multiplication of her Species most at Heart, than any ordinary Fowl can be imagined to have, she may, without much Pain or Difficulty, bring forth about one hundred and twenty well impregnated Eggs in one Year. Then allowing her

thirty-five Years to lay in, she may within the ordinary Time of Breeding, lay about four thousand two hundred Eggs. With a few such Layers, and a sufficient Number of good Hatchers, it is easy to conceive how Men must increase. If we prevent Commerce with *France*, so that they may not learn our Manner of Generation, in a few Years we need not fear any Danger from their long Strides towards universal Monarchy. We shall be able at least to out-number them.

This also must infallibly prevent the Rise of Rebellion, by obliging the rebellious or dissatisfied Women, to give up their Eggs to Existed Officers appointed for that Purpose, to be hatched by Loyalists in Times of Peace, in War to be eaten by the Officers of the Naval and Land Forces. Happy for these Nations had many of our Admirals, Generals, and other Officers, been fed with such enlivening inspiring Food, before some late Marine and Land Engagements; neither *Desford* or *C*— would have trusted to a Court Martial, they would have honourably acquitted themselves, without the least Auxiliaries drawn from Court Influence, Bribery, Perjury or Corruption.

It gives me the highest Pleasure to reflect, how many Shapes and Reputations will be preserved Uniform, Stender and Spotless, by this method of Generation, and how many of the Vulgar will be prevented murdering their own Children, or leaving them a Burden on the Work-House, whose Fund is already found too little to Support its B—d and other Officers like Gentlemen.

But as I have always manifested the highest Veneration for all Persons of Quality and Distinction, from the Fountain of Honour, to the City Knight, I rejoice exceedingly at my having the Happiness of hatching and bringing forth a Scheme so likely to gratify many of their Desires, most amply; but particularly,

particularly, that of supplying them with the most delicious, luxurious Entertainment, and as Eggs may be eaten in Lent, our Roman Catholic Quality, of the nicest Abstinence, will be happily, provided for, in Plenty.

I remember a certain ingenious Cook, some time ago, proposed a Scheme of supplying the Tables of the Great with young Children: But this was then a dangerous Project, and happily, never, fully carried into Execution. Now, it may, with the utmost Safety. There must be great Plenty, and I can venture to affirm, that one Child produced by hatching, will in Point of Delicacy of Taste and Flavor, to a distinguishing Landlord's Palate, be worth a Dozen, produced in the Vulgar Manner, by Birth. Besides no private Gentleman, or Lady, let their Desires be ever so strong, can easily Purchase an Embryo to eat, before it comes to be a coarse, full-grown Infant, and is born. Whereas an Embryo, of any Age, may be got out of the Shell, for Ragout, or Fricacy, or the Eggs themselves raw, poached, roasted, or baked, eaten, after any Degree of Incubation, that shall be judged fit, by a Board of Connoisseurs to be established for this Purpose, and this without fear of such Oppressive, Rude Laws, as restrain some of the People of best Fashion, but of smaller Fortunes, from eating born Children. For as an Egg is no Flesh, it can be no Murder to destroy it.

I know some neighbouring Nations, and perhaps some corrupted Travellers among us, will strongly oppose this Scheme, wisely judging, that as some Hen-pecked, unnatural Cocks have been known to bring forth Eggs, some fatal Discoveries may be made. Let those worthy Gentlemen Petition against the Bill and be heard, by the Mouths of the best Barristers in Town, and shew Cause why the Bill should not pass, or why an Exemption to Persons
of

of high and refined Tastes should be incerted, to prevent the Trouble of their laying Eggs. I hope there are none of these yet come among us, and therefore, there are but two Set of Men among us, that can have the least Cause to complain of any Injury from this truly public-spirited Project. Those are the most worthy Male Mid-wives, and the most worshipful the Judges, Advocates, and Proctors, of Spiritual Courts, throughout this Kingdom. As these are generally Men that can be of no kind of Use to the Public, in any other Capacity, nor indeed able to maintain themselves in any other Way, it will be but reasonable to settle a proper Stipend on each and every one of them, that does not, thro' selfish Views, oppose this Scheme, for Subsistence, during Life. If the K---g's Printer should be prejudiced, by lessening his Sale of certain penal Statutes, that concerning Clandestine Marriages in particular, which must probably become obsolete, it will be reasonable to recompence his Loss. This may be done, by obliging Exisemen, or other Revenue Officers, to make Returns of all Eggs layed in their respective Walks, those especially that are intended for hatching, and the Hatchers Names and Place of Abode, to the C-----rs of his Majesty's Revenue, which Returns the K---g's Printer may publish weekly, by Way of Bills of Mortality.

Thus I have drawn a few imperfect Sketches of this Scheme, enough I hope to shew its Feasibility and the Excellency and usefulness of the Design. No Man can doubt if this be duly executed, this must shortly become a Flourishing, Rich, and Popular Nation.

The E N D.

spiritual, by the sale of certain lands
 belonging to the State of New York, and
 for the purpose of raising money for
 the relief of the poor, and for the
 relief of the poor, and for the relief
 of the poor, and for the relief of the
 poor, and for the relief of the poor,

It will be impossible to reconstruct the
may be done by a young man, at least
while Officers to make further efforts
in their respective fields, and the
intended for future, and the
Place of Abode, in the
Keweenaw, which is one of the
weekly.

And now I have written a few
lines about myself. I hope you will find them
and me. Excuse my not writing more often.
My Mother can do it if she has time. I
will shortly become a student at the
Ladies' Mission.

